

Office of the Governor
NEWS RELEASE

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DiFrancesco Signs Law Increasing Eligibility for Homestead Property Tax Reimbursement Program

Doubles Income Limits for Seniors; Adds Retroactive Cost of Living Increase

Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco today signed legislation increasing the income eligibility limit for the Homestead Property Tax Reimbursement that more than doubles the current eligibility limits and adds a cost of living adjustment retroactive to tax year 2000.

The bill, A-3082/S-2120, signed at the Joseph Cipolla Senior Center in Bergen County, increases the eligibility limits from \$18,151 to \$37,174 for single claimants and \$22,256 to \$45,582 for married couples. The bill also states that the annual income eligibility limit for single and married persons will continue to be subject to adjustments in subsequent tax years.

"We must help seniors protect their investments, stay in their homes and remain active in the community. This legislation more than doubles the current limits for single and married couples. That means tens of thousands more seniors will be able to benefit from this program. And we're ensuring that there will continue to be adjustments in the future," said DiFrancesco.

A-3082/S-2120 was sponsored by Assemblymembers Alan Augustine (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) Jack Collins (R-salem/Cumberland/Gloucester) and Samuel Thompson (Middlesex/Monmouth) and Senators John Matheussen (R-Gloucester) and Lou Kosco (R-Bergen).

"I want to thank all of the sponsors of this important piece of legislation especially Senator Lou Kosco and Assemblymembers Rose Heck and Nick Felice for inviting me to the Joseph Cipolla Senior Center for this important event. I want seniors in Bergen County and all across New Jersey to know that the economic help you deserve is on the way," said DiFrancesco.

"Since becoming acting Governor I have made initiatives like increasing the Homestead Rebate and creating Senior Gold a priority. When it comes to seniors, the message is clear: you have given your best to New Jersey and we should give our best to you," said DiFrancesco.

